



Shameel Arafin
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Shameel Arafin

Executive with extensive strategic and operational experience in technology and media. Recent domain expertise focused on machine learning, digital journalism (platform/CMS, and storytelling), documentary, video and EdTech (online learning). Leader, educator, mentor, engineering gender-parity advocate. 10+ years in digital strategy, web development, product management and large-scale project development. Former investment banker.

Experience

CUNY

Winter 2015 - Present

Advisor, Hiring Manager

- Currently advising Tech Talent Pipeline (TTP) on syllabus, boot camp process, and strategy. While at Meredith/Time Inc., hired multiple cohorts of interns from various CUNY colleges through TTP.
- Tech-In-Residence Corps Member: Working to fulfill Mayor Bill de Blasio's goal of supporting a pipeline of local talent pursuing tech degrees at the City University of New York. In this capacity, teaching at Lehman College in 2019.
- CUNY 2X Tech Working Group Advisor: Advising CUNY colleges computer science departments on syllabus. Working Group panelist and member.

Lehman College, CUNY

Expected Spring Semester 2019

Adjunct Professor, Department of Computer Science

- Develop curriculum and teach undergraduate survey on machine learning and data science.

New Jersey Institute of Technology

May 2018 - Present

Consultant, Department of Data Science

- Consulting with Director of Data Science and Bioinformatics. Researching machine learning algorithms for fake news detection.

Meredith Corp. (formerly Time Inc.)

April 2017 - February 2018

Senior Director, Platform Engineering, News Group

- Led engineering teams for News and Education verticals, responsible for all technological aspects of time.com, fortune.com, money.com, timeforkids.com, health.com and other brands.
- Successfully launched multiple award-winning projects, including TIME's Person of the Year "The Silence Breakers" and "Finding Home", winner of American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME) award, Picture of the Year (POY) award, and Edward R. Murrow award; Emmy-nominated.
- Drove re-architecture, re-platforming and development of Time For Kids, from simple Drupal-based CMS to sophisticated WordPress VIP-powered learning management system. Features included multiple lexile levels, Spanish translations, audio read-aloud of text, and online-assessment and testing software.
- Launched News and Health brands' second redesign and re-platforming to Element (proprietary front-end platform).
- Recruited and led over a dozen developers, growing a team from 2 to 14 members, whose composition approached gender parity (43% female). Deeply involved in mentoring throughout the company, in Product, Design and Engineering departments.

August 2015 - April 2017

Director, Platform Engineering, News Group

- Successfully re-launched iconic franchises such as FORTUNE 500, Person of the Year, TIME 100 Most Influential People.
- Managed redesign and re-platforming efforts for all News brands to headless WordPress VIP architecture, including Node/Express/React-powered front-end.
- Supervised engineering team for native/branded content engagements for The Foundry, for clients including Netflix and Siemens (seven-figure engagement).



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MediaStorm

June 2011 - July 2015

Platform Architect & Lead Developer

- Created architecture and back-end development for MediaStorm Platform, an interactive storytelling tool.
- First online video player to implement transaction (pay to view), built on proprietary CMS. Key users/clients include Wall Street Journal's Infinity Awards, Sundance Institute, International Center for Transitional Justice.
- Led technology sections for MediaStorm Workshops.
- Recruited developers and interns. Initiated 401(k) plan.

Freelance Engagements

January 2003 - June 2011

CTO, Lead Developer

- PopStay: Architected and coded prototype of social app for vacation rentals and home swapping.
- Co-founded SignalFive, an interactive design, development and strategy agency for web/mobile apps. Clients included Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Protection and Grand Marnier.
- Massify: Back-end developer at startup social network/crowd-sourcing web application for the film and TV industry.

Credit Suisse First Boston Tech Group

July 1998 - March 2002

Senior Research Associate

- Equity research in Semiconductor Capital Equipment and Communications Test & Measurement sectors

Deutsche Bank Securities Tech Group

June 1997 - July 1998

Research Assistant

- Research Assistant to Director of Research/Lead Analyst on PC Hardware & Software. Editor of *The Tech Daily*

Mentorship/Teaching/Advisory

High School of Art & Design

November 2016 - Present

Advisory Board Member

- Syllabus ratification per New York Department of Education
- Portfolio reviews, guest speaking

Mountain Workshops, Western Kentucky University

October 2017

Digital Storytelling & Data Visualization Coach

- Co-led weeklong workshop with half a dozen students, using code, design, photo, video, cartography and mapping to tell local stories

Certifications

Scrum Alliance

February 2018 - Present

Certified Scrum Product Owner

Education

Harvard University

September 1995 - June 1997

A.B. Literature (Honors)

California Institute of Technology

September 1993 - June 1995

Electrical Engineering / Literature candidate